

Missouri Water Resources Center

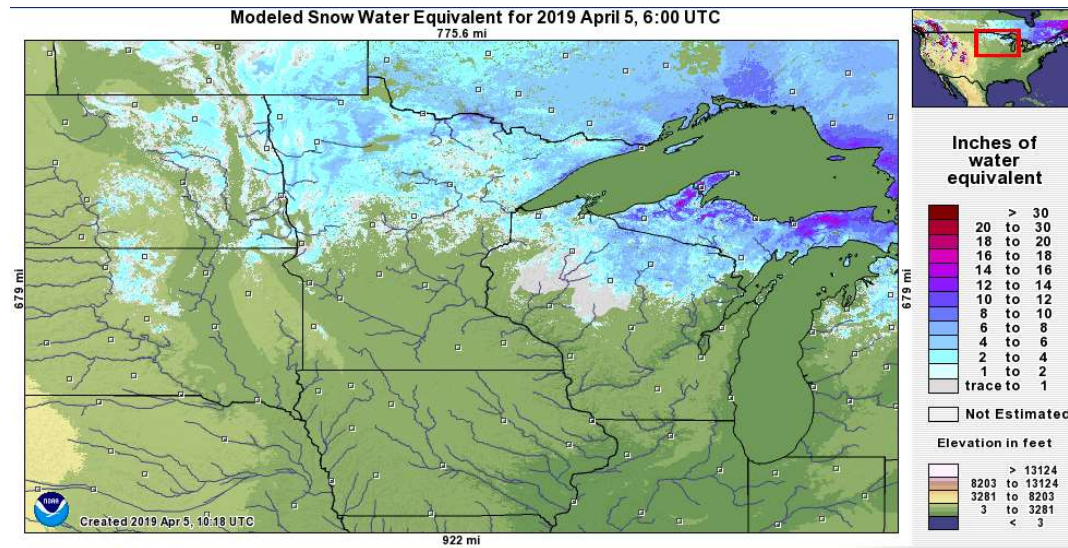
Mississippi River Flood Conditions Report

April 24, 2019

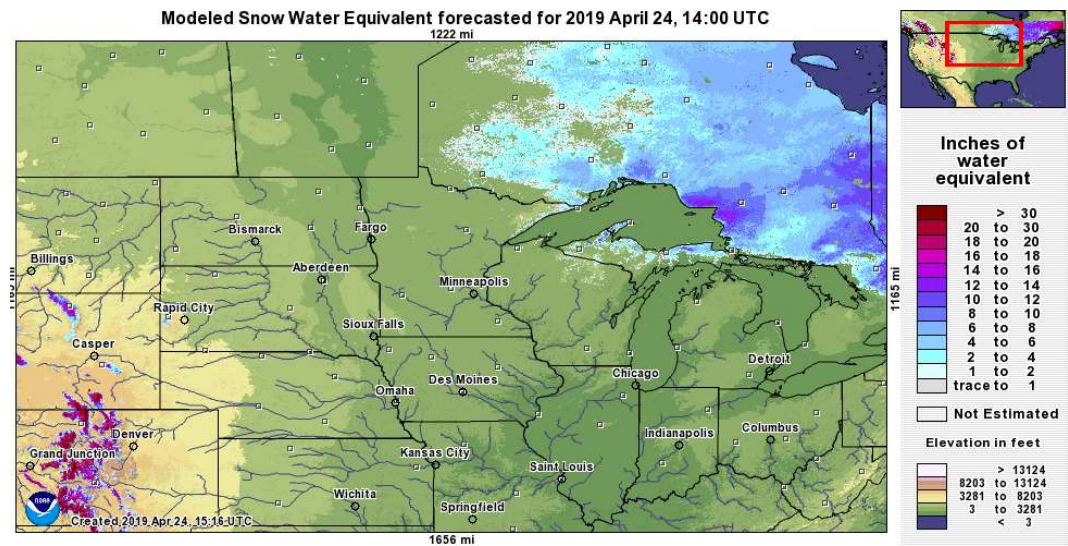
Mississippi River Flooding Status

- Localized precipitation in the upper Mississippi River basin is leading to a rising river from St. Paul, Minnesota to Davenport Iowa, where the river is predicted to rise into the lower portions of major flood stage. The river at these locations is predicted to crest in the next 3-4 days before receding.
- No locations adjacent to the state of Missouri are currently forecast to reach major flood stage. Below the mouth of the Missouri River (at St. Louis) the Mississippi River has increased its capacity and is predicted to continue to recede, with several sections predicted to transition out of flood stage.
- Forecasts for the Mississippi River are currently incorporating only 24-hour future precipitation into river forecasts. Portions of the upper Mississippi River basin are forecast to receive 1-2 inches of rain towards the beginning of next week (see 7-day Total Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) map below).
- Flooding on the Mississippi River earlier this spring was primarily driven by melting snowpack on the upper reaches of the Mississippi River watershed. However, no significant snow remains in the watershed (see maps below). River levels now will be dictated by regional precipitation events and residual soil moisture.
- The Ohio River gage at Cairo (at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers) is in moderate flood stage: it is predicted to crest in the next 2 days and begin receding.

Changes in Snowpack

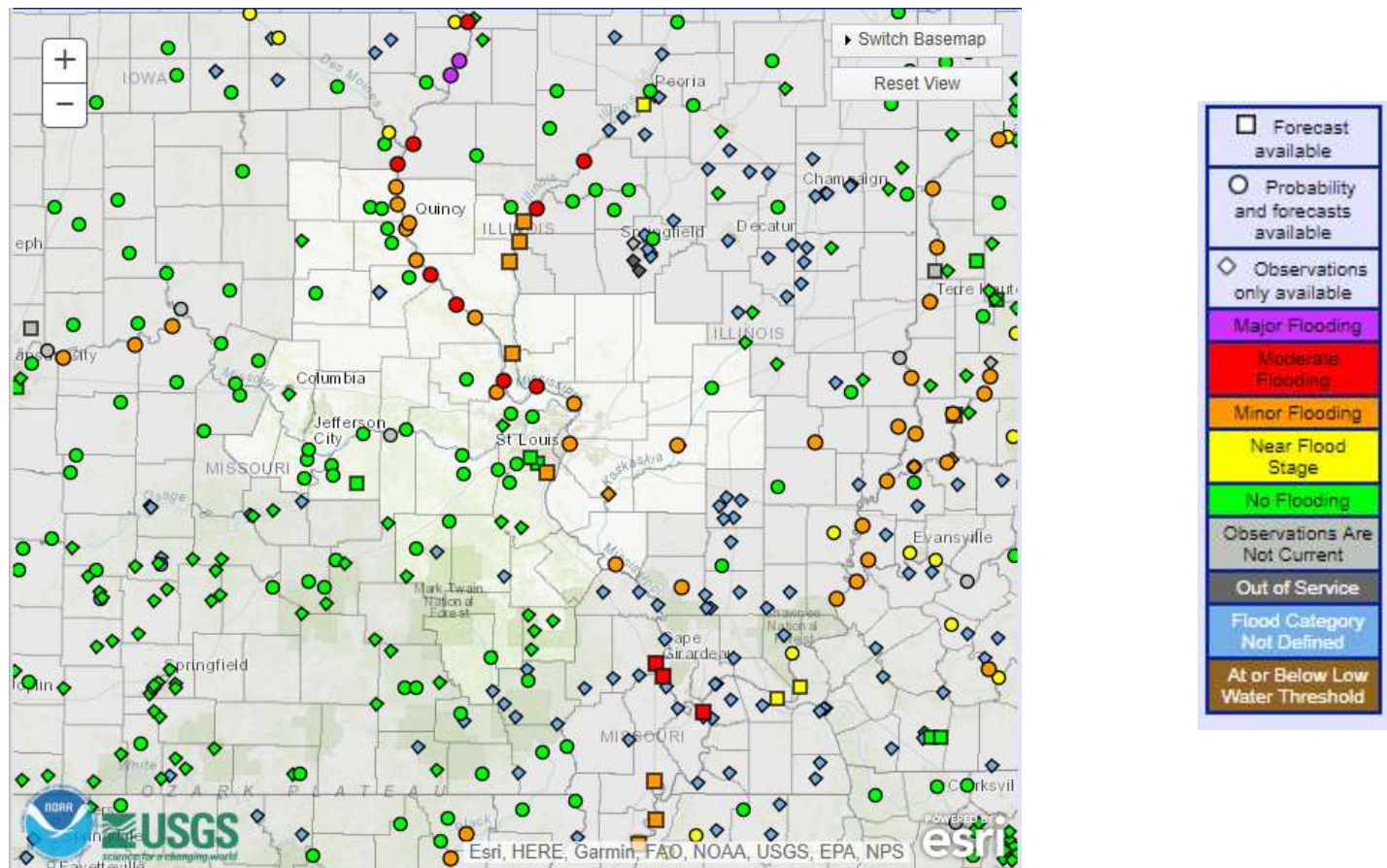


Two weeks ago (4/5)

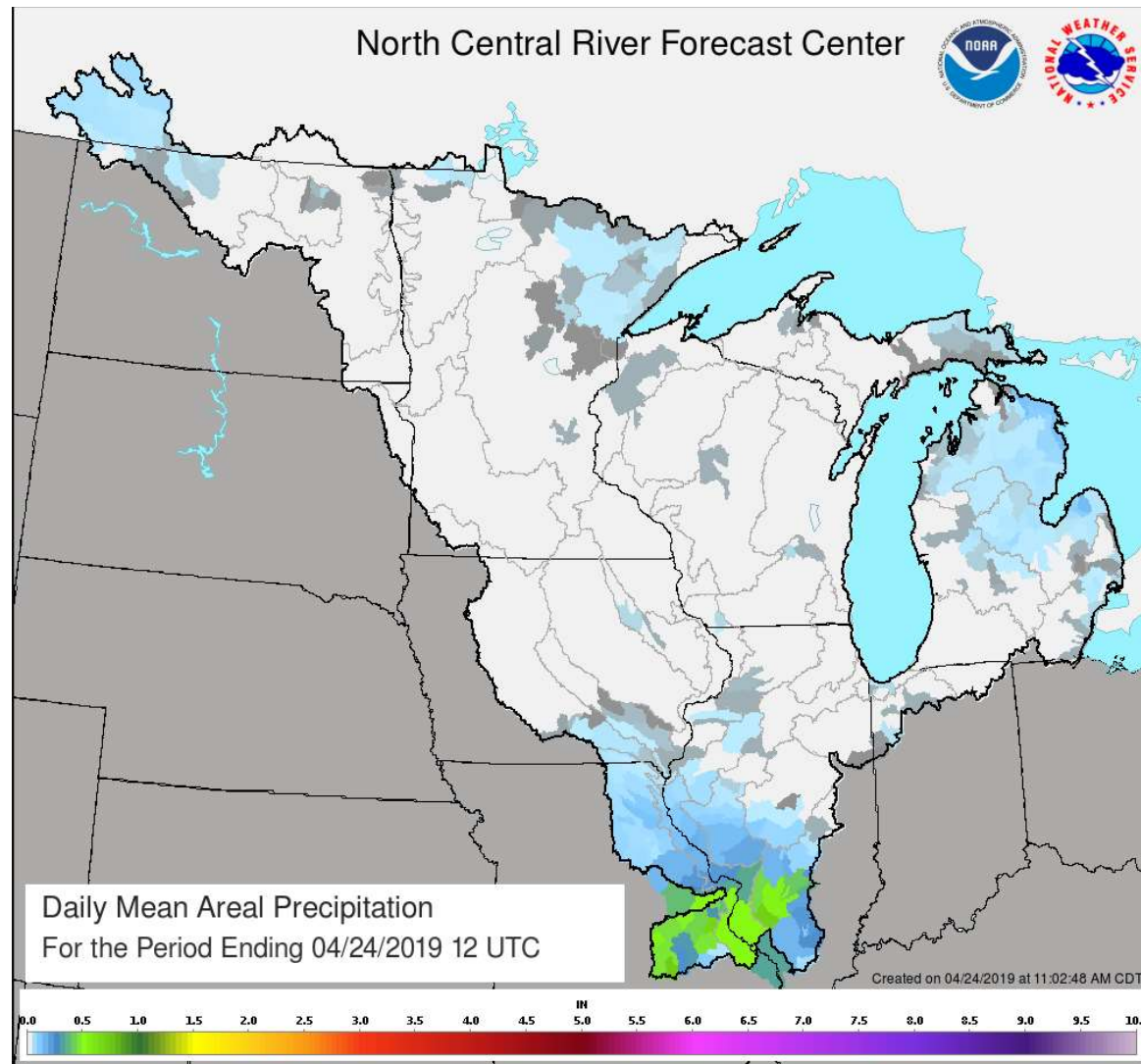


Current (4/23)

Regional River Gage Status



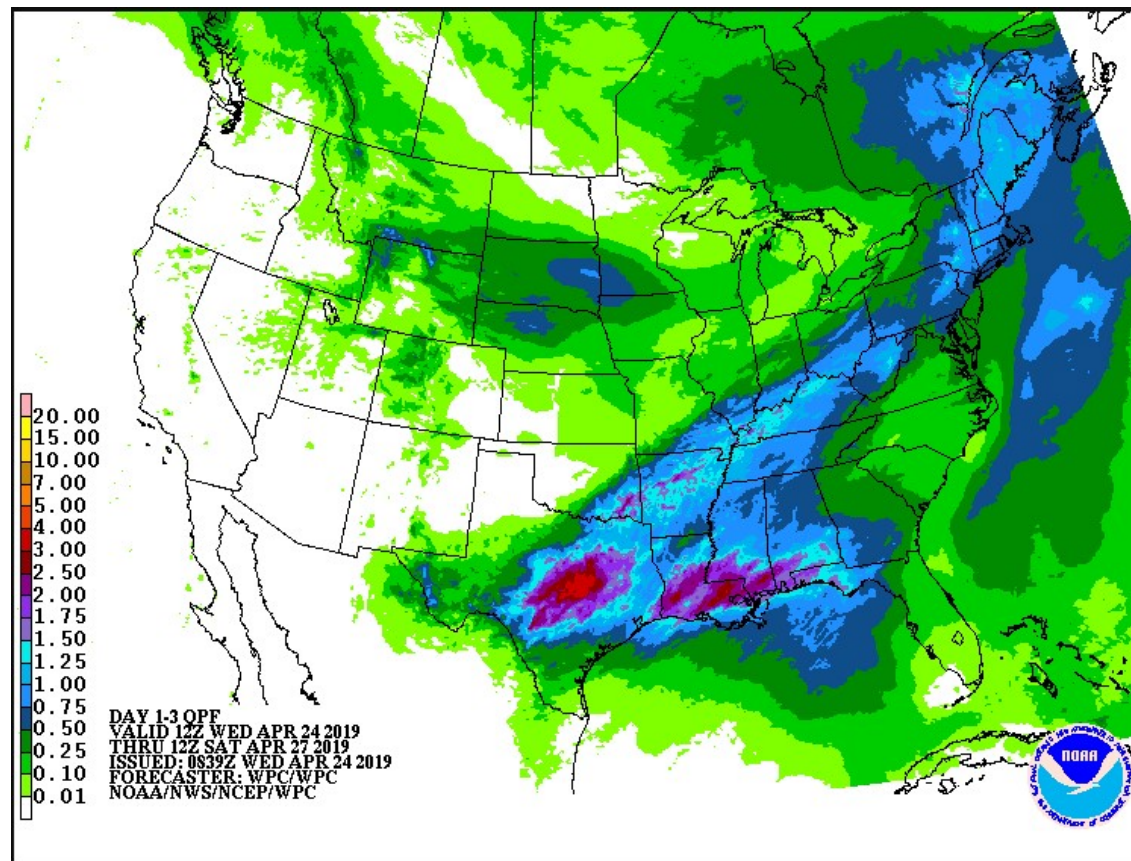
24-hour Observed Precipitation





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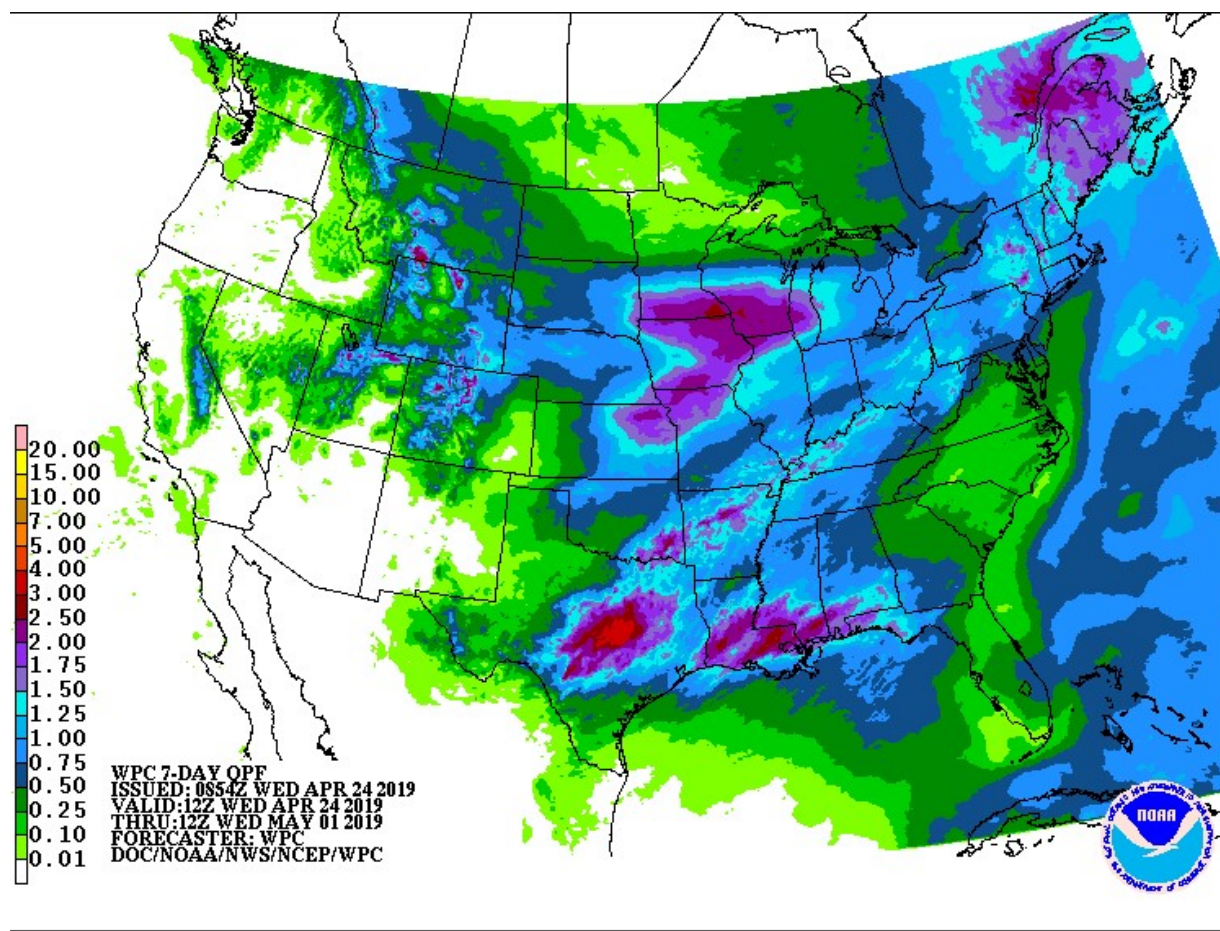
3 Day Total Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)





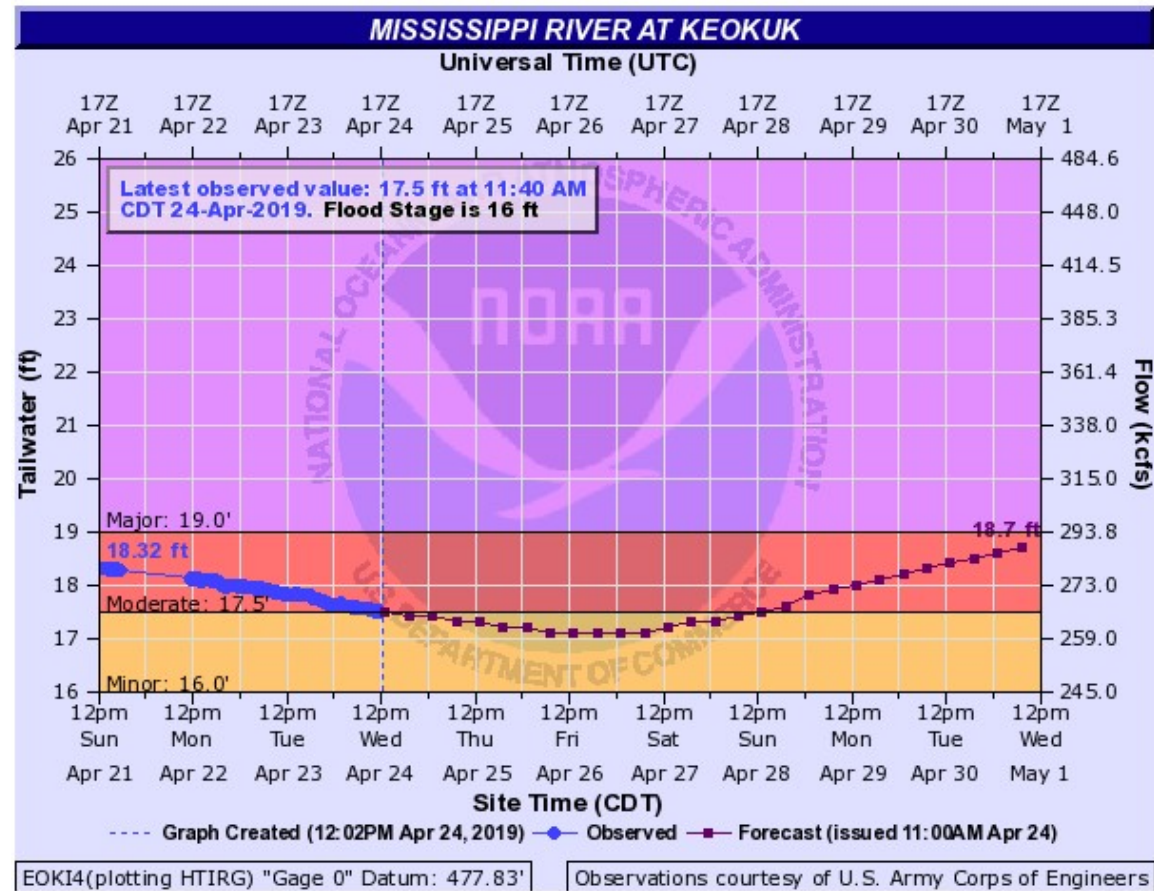
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7-Day Total Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)





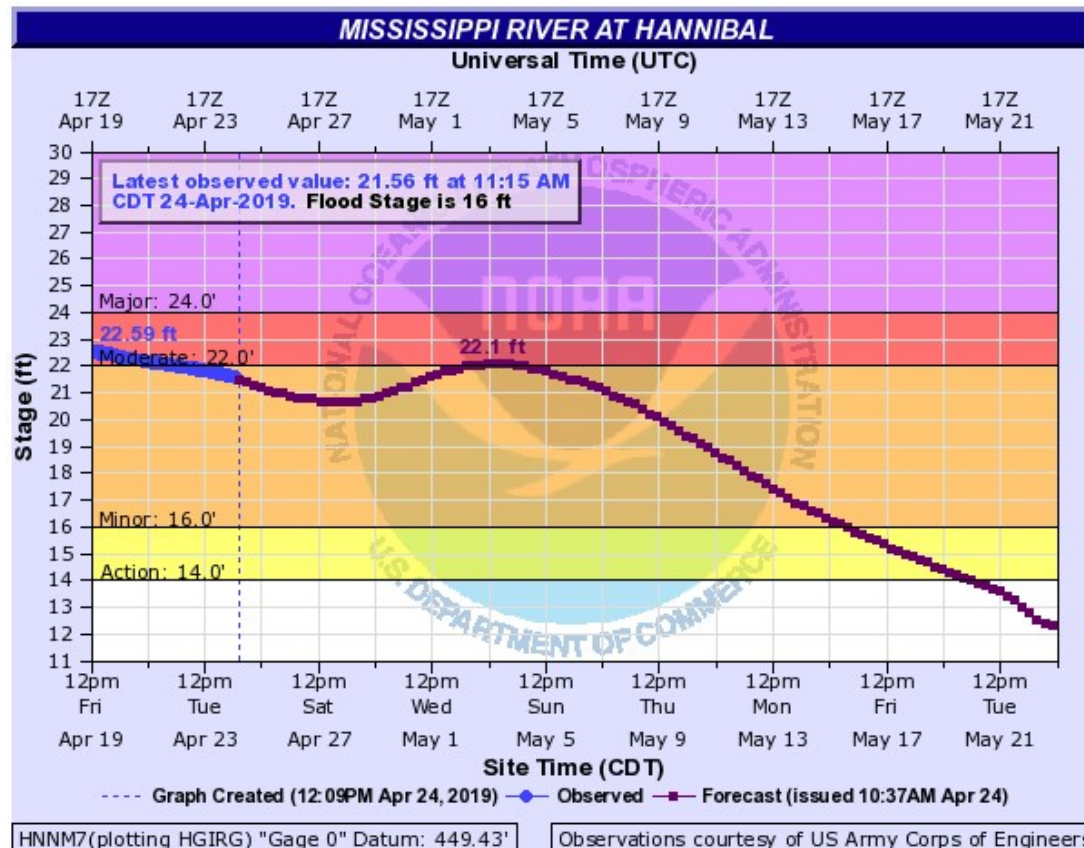
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- The Mississippi River at Keokuk has receded to minor flood stage. The river is however expected to rise again back into moderate flood stage by next week.
- At Keokuk, the river levels of 19 feet close U.S Highway 61 at the bridge over the Des Moines River and affect County Road 12.



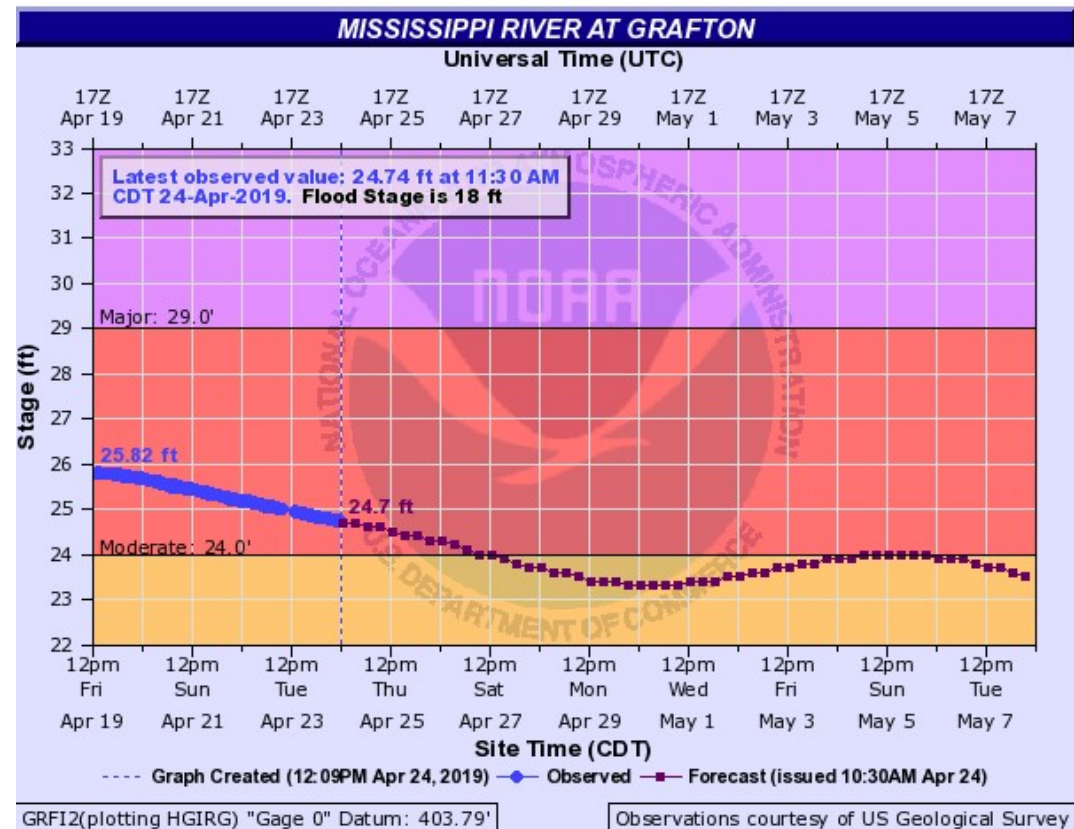
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- The Mississippi River at Hannibal has receded to minor flood stage and is expected to rise again near moderate flood stage next week.
- At 22.8 feet Highway 79 begins flooding south of Hannibal, and it may be closed from south of Hannibal to Route N and flood gates at Broadway Avenue and Main Street are installed.



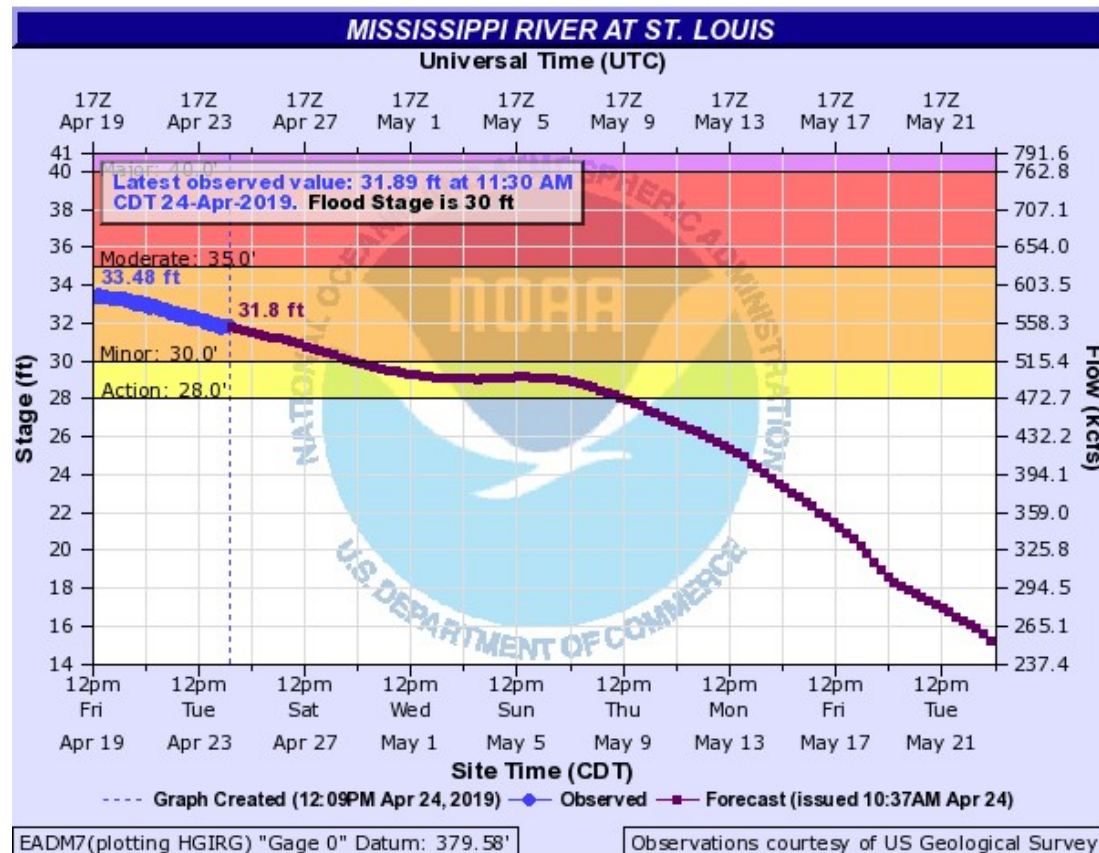
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- The Mississippi River at Grafton is in moderate flood stage at 24.7 feet and is expected to recede to minor flood stage over next few days.
- At Grafton, river levels of 26 feet cause the water distribution system to begin to flood, necessitating emergency measures, and at 26.4 feet residential flooding occurs.



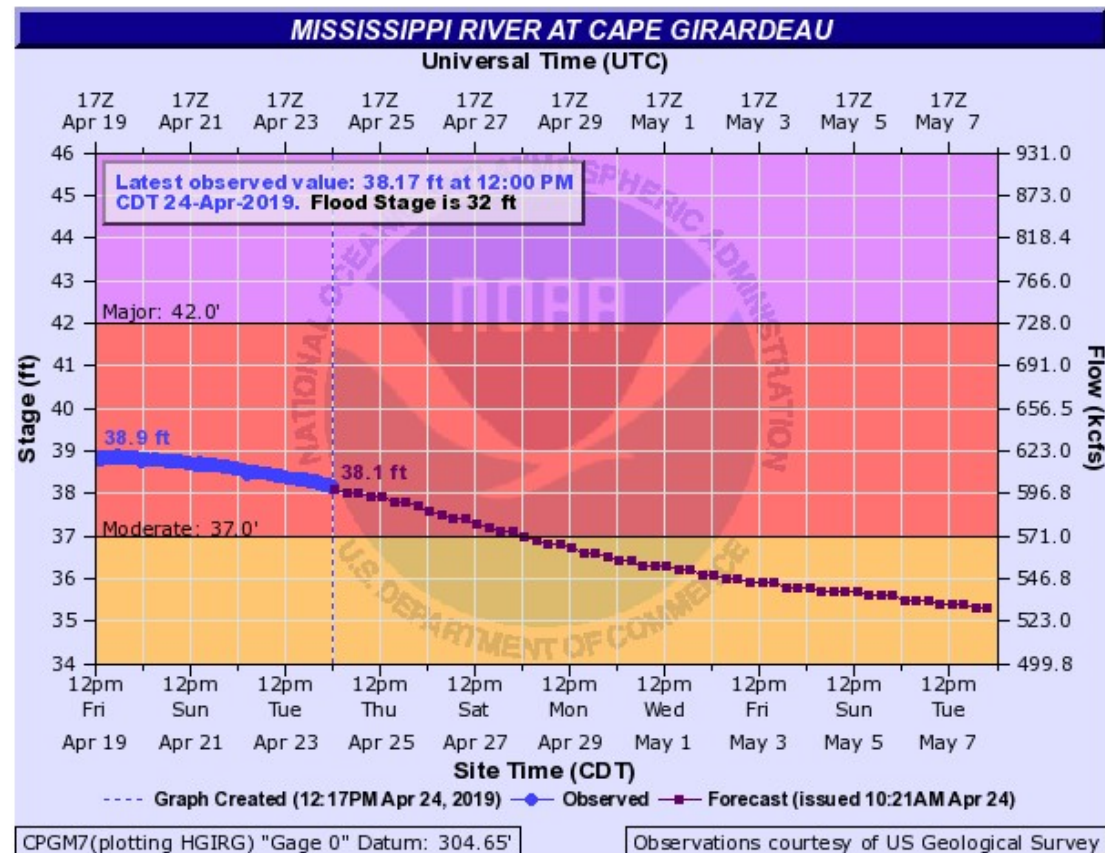
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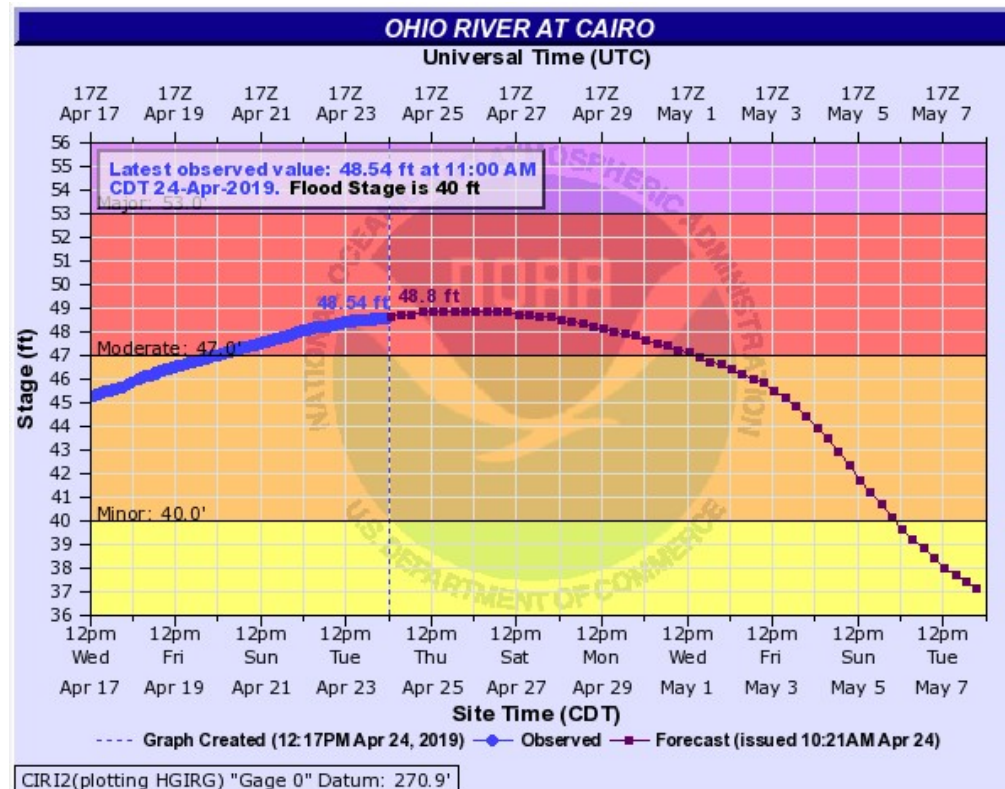
- The Mississippi River at St. Louis is in minor flood stage at 31.8 feet and is expected to recede.



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- The Mississippi River at Cape Girardeau is in moderate flood stage at 38.1 feet and is expected to continue receding.
- At Cape Girardeau at 36 feet the flood gage at Themis Street closes and at 38 feet the flood gate at Broadway Street closes.



- The Ohio River (at the confluence with the Mississippi River) at Cairo, Illinois is in minor flood stage at 48.54 feet and predicted to crest in moderate flood stage at 49 feet Thursday (4/25/2019).

Resources for Further Information

- Department of Natural Resources Flood Page:
<https://dnr.mo.gov/flood>
- National Weather Service – Mississippi River Flooding:
<https://www.weather.gov/dvn/MississippiRiverOutlook>
- National Weather Service – River Forecasts, Missouri Basin:
https://www.weather.gov/dvn/River_Levels#Top
- Missouri Water Resources Center – Mississippi River Informational Page: https://dnr.mo.gov/geology/wrc/interstate-waters/mississippi_river.htm